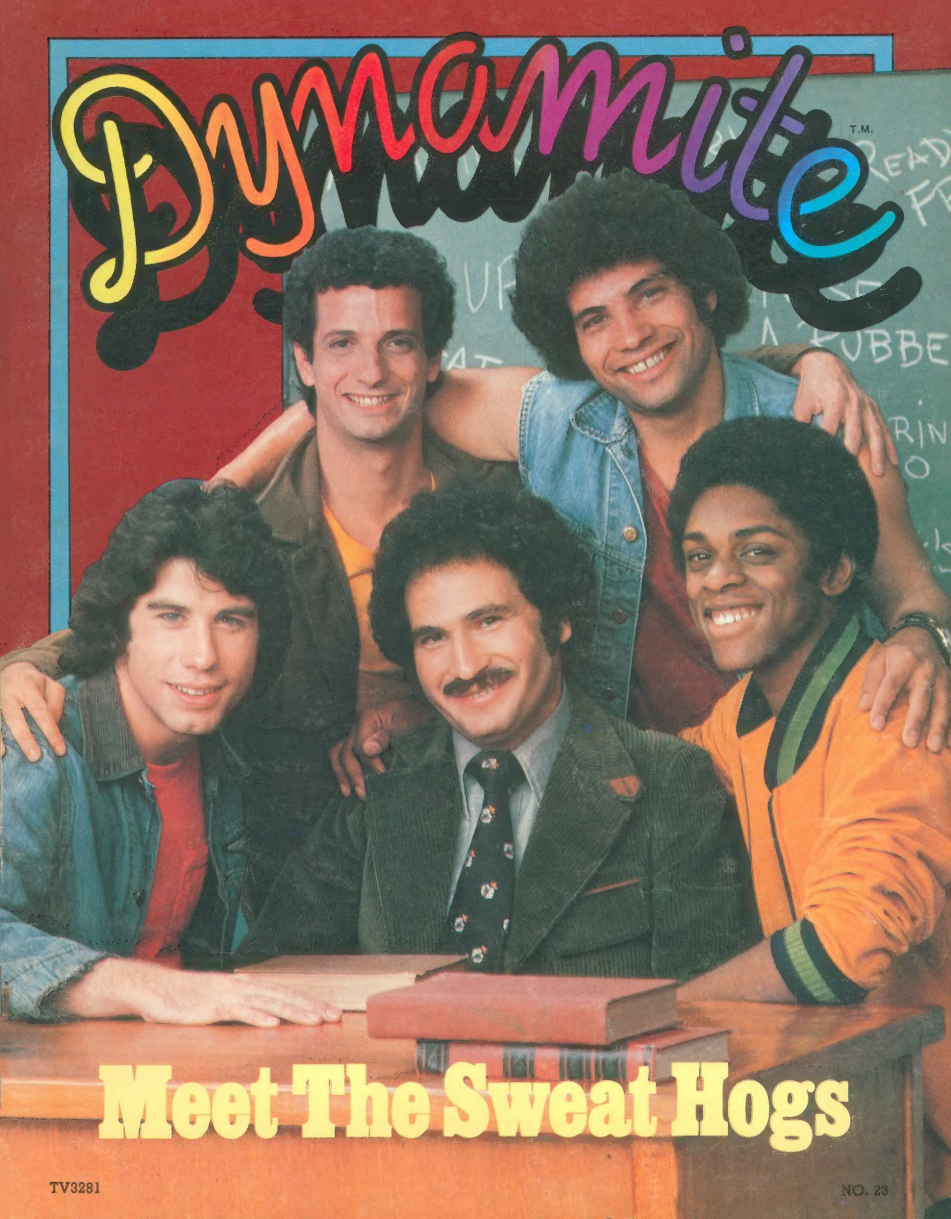
Dynamite
T.M.
Meet The Sweat Hogs

Don't worry, there's still plenty of time. Just send $2.50 (preferably in a check or money order made out to *Dynamite*) to this address:

DYNAMITE
BOX 2005
ENGLEWOOD, NJ 07631

and you'll get all three super summer *Dynamites* sent right to your house. Check page 32 for all the details and a handy coupon!

Pssst Pass it On...

This is usually the place where we *tell* you some inside information, but this month we're *asking* you for some. We received a very interesting letter from a *Dynamite* reader who wanted to know what it's like to have a mother or father who is a famous star. We didn't know how to answer the question, but the more we thought about it the more we wanted to know the answer too. So how about it, gang? Is your father or mother a movie star, a musician, a famous athlete, a writer, or a TV actor? What is your life like? Do kids treat you differently? Can you have anything you want? Do you get into the movies for free? Is your life really exciting? Or is it just like being anybody else's kid? When did you first find out your parent was famous? If you are the son or daughter of someone famous, we would really like to hear your feelings about what it's like. Don't worry, we'll keep your letter and your address confidential. If we want to print part of what you have to say, we'll get in touch with you and your parents first. Then, with your permission and theirs, we'll pass it along. Send your letter to: Debbie Sealey, *Dynamite*, 50 West 44th St., New York, NY 10036.

This month's *Dynamite* was prepared by Scholastic's local Sweat Hogs: Jane Stine, Wozney and Lucik Design, Linda Aber, Chip Lovitt, Debbie Sealey, Alan Weiss, Sharon Graham, Sheldon Sturges, and Bruce Weber.

Scholastic

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DYNAMITE

A Monthly Book From Arrow, a Scholastic Book Club

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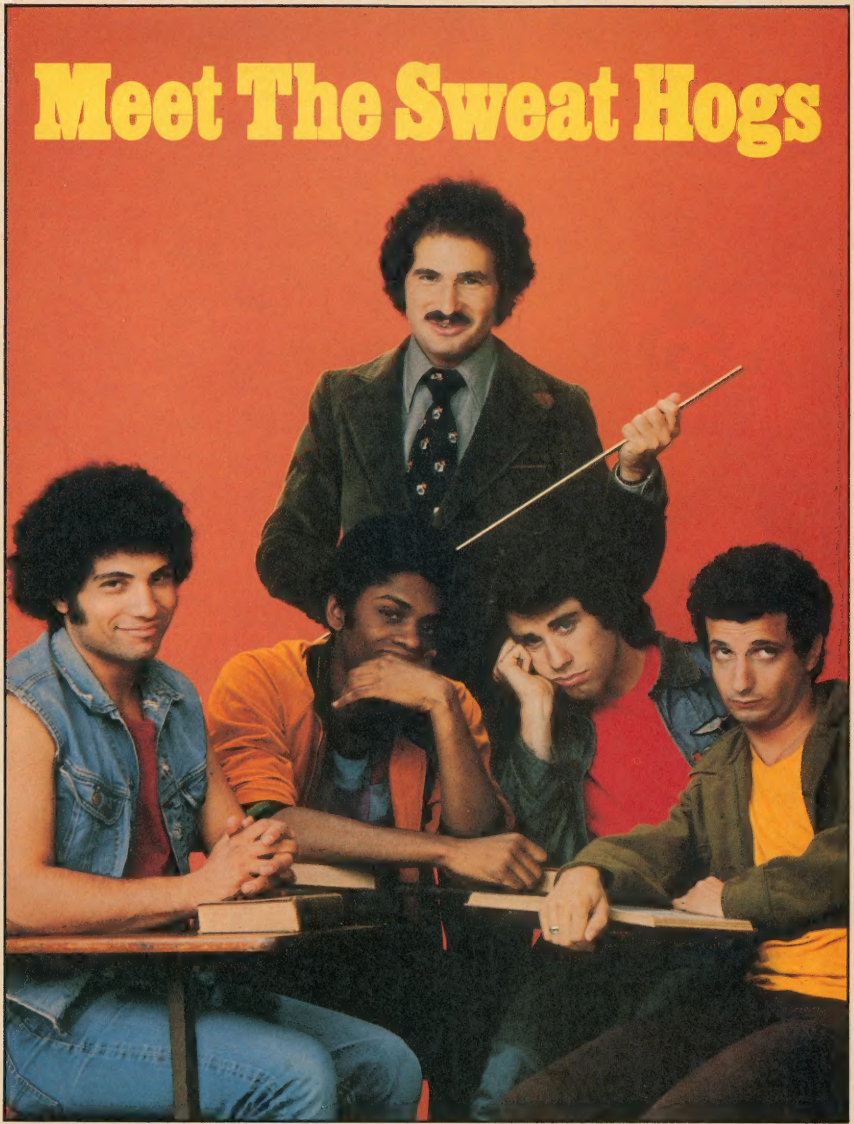
Meet The Sweat Hogs



Photography / ABC

If you watch *Welcome Back, Kotter* (and who doesn't?) you know that the Sweat Hogs are Kotter's special class of crazies whose main subject is comedy. But how much do you know about the real people behind the tough exterior of Vinnie Barbarino and the "aura" of Arnold Horshack? *Dynamite* went to California and spent a long crazy lunch with the real Sweat Hogs. Now that we've finally stopped laughing, we're ready to invite you to meet the Sweat Hogs too.

Ron Palillo-Horshack

"I *was* Horshack when I was a kid," Ron Palillo told us. "Actually, when I was about 10 I had a lot of friends and everything was fine. But then I really got interested in acting, and my friends didn't think acting was cool, or something. So they told me I either had to give up my theater work, or I'd be out of the group. I couldn't give up theater, so I lost my friends. I was a complete outcast. Also I was very short, only four foot eight until my senior year in high school. So I tried everything to get people to like me. I would act like a dummy or be a real wise guy. You know, the teacher would say, 'Who was the King of France during the Revolution?' And I'd yell out, 'Louis the 374th!' All the kids would laugh, and I'd feel like they might accept me. This is sort of what Horshack is going through, except that he *is* accepted by the other Sweat Hogs."

Ron stopped talking long enough to look at the menu. He had a lot of trouble deciding what to order. Finally he looked up at the waitress and said, "I'll have a no idea with a maybe on the side." Then he went right on talking. (Eventually he ate a hamburger.)

"I just wasn't motivated in school. The only thing I cared about was acting. Finally I had this one teacher, who was a little like Kotter. She really encouraged me. She just said: 'Look, you've got some things you want to do with your life, and you can do them, but you've got to work.' That's what I like about *Welcome Back, Kotter*. Mr. Kotter isn't just teaching social studies on the show; he's teaching the kids about life. The style of the show makes it fun too, because we go from serious to light to crazy to serious—all in just a half hour. Also, I have never seen a show where everybody likes each other so much. The four of us really get along and we're all really friendly."

"Hey," the familiar voice of John "Barbarino" Travolta interrupted. "We're all pretty nice guys, right?"

Robert Hegyes-Epstein

When we first met Bobby Hegyes, he was the quietest of the group. So we assumed he was the most serious. But it wasn't long before his fellow Sweat Hogs told us we were wrong.

"Let me tell you about Bobby," said Larry "Washington" Jacobs. "He's the resident crazy man!"

"Absolutely true," said John Travolta. "Let me give you an example. One night I'm asleep and my phone rings at one a.m. It was Bobby, but he didn't say hello or anything. He just said, 'The Beatles, man. The Beatles!' I didn't know what he wanted, but after saying 'The Beatles' a few more times, he hung up!"

"Wait! I can explain that," Bobby said laughing. "You see, someone had suggested that the four of us put together a nightclub act. And I was home for hours listening to music and thinking about how all four of us can sing. And well, I guess I got a little carried away. I just started thinking that the four of us could be the next Beatles. I wasn't really serious."

"Oh yes, you were," John said.

"Well, half serious," Bobby admitted. "But listen, I'm not really the clown of the group. The real clown is Gabe Kaplan. He'll do anything to crack us up. He does this one number with the phone. He'll walk over to a phone that hasn't rung and pick it up. Then he'll say, 'Bob, it's for you.' I fall for it every time. We all do, even though we know there isn't anyone there!

"One day I thought I'd get Gabe. I went next door and phoned the rehearsal room. John picked it up and told Gabe it was for him. Then just as Gabe picked up the phone, I hung up. Big joke. But Gabe says, 'Hi, how are you?' and does a five-minute bit on the phone talking to no one! He always wins. Seriously, though, all the clowning around is good for the show. We're always thinking of funny bits for each other to do."

"That's true," said Ron. "But Bobby is incredible. You give him one idea and he does 30 different things with it. In one show we told him to wear a Durante nose."

"Yeah, and I put it on the back of my head," Bobby remembered. "Then I put my trench coat on backwards and backed into the room. They all fell down laughing!"

When Bobby isn't busy cracking up his fellow actors, he lives with his wife Mary and a dog and a cat in an apartment filled with furniture he made himself.

"It's really beautiful stuff. You should see it," Larry told us. "What made you decide to make furniture?" we asked. "Well," came the typically Bobby Hegyes reply, "we got to California and we didn't have any furniture."

Lawrence-Hilton Jacobs- Washington

Larry grew up in New York City, and he says the scene on *Kotter* is very familiar to him. "My junior high was exactly like Buchanan," Larry told us. "Our set looks just like the classrooms there. I guess I was like Washington. I was the class clown and I practically lived in the dean's office. I had one teacher who was a lot like Mr. Kotter. He could really handle us if we caused trouble. He'd just yell, 'Shut up, meatheads!'

"You know, come to think of it, doing this show is just like being in high school. We come here every day at nine. We have homework (learning lines). We spend most

of the day sitting at desks in a classroom. We don't get much of a feeling that we're TV stars. The other night, John and I were out having pizza and some kids at another table started whispering and pointing at us. So I guess we're getting pretty well known. But you see, we're always working. We even tape on the night the show is on, so we don't get to watch ourselves. Except one week we were off, and I did get to see the show. Let me tell you, it's pretty weird to sit in your living room and watch yourself on TV. I have to admit I thought the show was really funny!"

The others kid Larry and say that he was a star before he joined the show, because he had starring parts in two movies, *Claudine* and *Cooley High.* He hopes to continue his movie career and some day write and direct movies as well. We asked him what he likes to do when he's not working. "When am I not working?" he asked. "I tell you, it's just like high school!"

John Travolta-Barbarino

All the *Kotter* kids have lots of fans, but John is probably the most popular with the girls. His looks and the tough manner he puts on when he plays Barbarino have made him a real TV idol. But when you meet John, you can see that none of this has gone to his head. He's straight and friendly and seems surprised at all the attention he's been getting lately. "You flew all the way from New York to talk to us?" he asked with real modesty and surprise. Then he told us about himself. "I was a wise guy in school too, but I wasn't the leader of the gang like Barbarino. I wasn't that tough. I played sports, but I didn't get into fights. When I was 16, I got interested in acting and in flying a plane, and that's what I do now."

John's interest in acting was encouraged by his mother, who has been an actress and drama teacher for 20 years. Of course she's very proud of her son now, but John is sure that one thing about Barbarino must make his mother groan. "The accent," John explained. "Barbarino talks with a real New York accent. When I was growing up in New Jersey, my mother used to correct me all the time so that I wouldn't talk with a New York accent. Now I have to talk that way! And the worst part is that sometimes I talk like Barbarino off the set! On a weekly show you spend so much time with your character that it's bound to rub off on you. But that's the good thing about a weekly show—you can really get into your character and show many sides of it. And the characters can grow and change. I think all the *Kotter* characters have changed a little. Like Barbarino was supposed to be so tough all the time. Well, now that we've shown that he is tough, we can show other sides to him."

"Yeah, Epstein is a little less menacing and mean," Bobby added. "Horshack has gotten a little smarter. They've all grown."

What do you think will happen to the characters in the future? we asked. "Well," said John, "the main thing is that the show is going to be on the air for a while." Then he paused, and all four solemnly knocked wood.

They may be superstitious, but according to the vibrations we've picked up, they don't have a thing to worry about. It doesn't look as if the *Kotter* class will be graduating for quite a few years!

If you'd like to write to the Sweat Hogs, send your letter to: Welcome Back, Kotter, ABC-TV, 4151 Prospect Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90027.

Autograph Laughs

Good-bye! So long! Have a nice summer! See you in September! You didn't really think we'd let the the school year end without writing a little something in your book, did you? It's that time of year when kids everywhere are collecting the class wits' bits of wit in year books and autograph books. We've picked some autograph laughs from the prize students in the Dynamite Class of '76! It's our way of saying, "Yours till Niagara Falls."

Truly Yours, Your Friend in Need

At last the school year's over
But before the memory fades
I just want to remind you of
Our daily lunchbox trades.
Remember that huge chocolate cake
You traded for roast beef?
I ate the beef and left you with
A wilted lettuce leaf.
Remember how you hungered for
Those grapes that looked like gems?
You gave me two big candy bars,
And I gave you the stems.
My carrot sticks were such a steal.
You got them for a song!
I only charged you three cupcakes,
How could you go wrong?
I'd say you owe me quite a lot.
Thank me for being shrewd.
I sacrificed my own good health
To save you from junk food!

Have fun at camp and don't eat anything I wouldn't eat...

Best Wishes, Best Excuses

Excuse the lateness of this note.
I broke my arm and ripped my coat.
Now that excuse is one to quote!
It is the best one yet.
All year I've come to classes late.
Excuses ranged from good to great.
A good one was, "I gained some weight."
A great one was, "I lost it."
You laughed at me for being sickly,
For letting heat waves make me prickly,
And cold spells make my throat feel tickly,
But look who's laughing last.
You took those tests when I felt sneezy
You flunked them all when I was queasy
But make-up tests are twice as easy
And that is how I passed!

See you next fall... late next fall, because my neck is a little stiff and I have this pain....

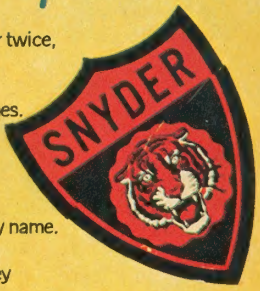
Sincerely, Most Conceited

The school year now is over
And I'm sure you will agree,
There's no one you will miss as much
As gorgeous little me.
It's not just that I'm wonderful,
Or even simply great
That makes me such a kissable
And missable classmate.
It isn't just the fact that I'm
Intelligent and witty,
Charming, full of poise and fun,
Not to mention pretty.
I'm graceful and I'm wise, it's true.
These things you'll miss, no doubt.
But mainly it's my modesty
You'll surely die without!

Hope you make it through the summer without me. Love, Your humble friend....

Forever Yours, Old Dependable

I've been left back just once or twice,
Or maybe three or four times.
Before you see the last of me
I'll be left back some more times.
It doesn't make me sad to be
An old familiar face.
My most endearing quality
Is growing old with grace.
The teachers here all know my name.
The principal's my friend.
He's given me my own pass key
And two classrooms to tend.
They need me here. How can I leave?
For years and years I've stayed.
But after these past twenty years
I think I'll try fourth grade!



See you next year...and the next year...and the year after that....

GROUCHO'S GREATEST HITS

You'd have to get up pretty early in the morning to outwit Groucho Marx. As ringleader of the fabulously funny Marx Brothers, Groucho proved to be the fastest wit in the West, and the East too. Here's a sample of Groucho's wit and wisdom. It's the best Marx in its class!

Groucho had a love affair going in all his films—usually with money. It really had a hold on him and he kept an even stronger hold on it.

Groucho: Do they allow tipping on this boat?
Steward: Oh, yes, sir.
Groucho: Have you got two fives?
Steward: Yes, sir!
Groucho: Well, then you won't need the ten cents I was going to give you. *(A Night at the Opera)*

Groucho: Any of you boys got ten cents?
Bellhops: No, sir.
Groucho: Well, keep the baggage. *(Go West)*

Chico: Three dollars. Can he live in New York on three dollars?
Groucho: Like a prince. Of course he won't be able to eat, but he can live like a prince. *(A Night at the Opera)*

Groucho (as Prime Minister)**:** All right, the meeting is called to order.
Minister of Finance: Here is the Treasury Department's report. I hope you'll find it clear.
Groucho: Clear, huh! Why, a four-year-old child could understand this report. Run out and find me a four-year-old child. I can't make head or tail out of it. *(Duck Soup)*

Margaret Dumont, who played such heavies as Mrs. Teasdale in *Duck Soup*, got to hear all of Groucho's best insults. Unfortunately, they were all aimed at her!

Groucho: Not that I care, but where is your husband?
Mrs. Teasdale: Why, he's dead.
Groucho: I'll bet he's just using that as an excuse.
Mrs. Teasdale: I was with him to the very end.
Groucho: No wonder he passed away.
Mrs. Teasdale: I held him in my arms and kissed him.
Groucho: Oh I see. Then it was murder. *(Duck Soup)*

Mrs. Teasdale: As chairwoman of the reception committee, I welcome you with open arms.
Groucho: Is that so. How late do you stay open?
Mrs. Teasdale: I've sponsored your appointment because I feel you are the most able statesman in Freedonia.
Groucho: Well, that covers a lot of ground. Say you cover a lot of ground yourself. You better beat it. I hear they're going to tear you down and put up an office building where you're standing. You can leave in a taxi. If you can't get a taxi, you can leave in a huff. If that's too soon, you can leave in a minute and a huff. *(Duck Soup)*

Dialogue from the book WHY A DUCK? edited by Richard J. Anobile, © 1971 by Darien House, Inc. Reprinted by permission of Darien House, Inc.

Illustration/Robert Dale

Groucho: Is it true your husband is getting a divorce as soon as he regains his eyesight? Is it true you wash your hair in clam broth? Is it true you used to dance in a flea circus? *(Monkey Business)*

Groucho: I could dance with you till the cows come home. On second thought, I'd rather dance with the cows till you come home. *(Duck Soup)*

Groucho also aimed his bombshells at his brother Chico and anyone else silly enough to tangle with him.

Groucho (to Chico)**:** You've got the brain of a four-year-old boy and I'll bet he was glad to get rid of it. *(Horsefeathers)*

Groucho: He's a tenderfoot.
Chico: You wear those shoes, you gotta have tender foot, too.
Groucho: Oh, those are . . . shoes? I thought that was fungus with buttons. *(Go West)*

Chico (as Groucho tries to guess the secret password which is "swordfish")**:** Now I give you one more chance.
Groucho: I've got it. Haddock.
Chico: 'At's funny, I gotta haddock, too.
Groucho: What do you take for haddock?
Chico: Sometimes I take aspirin. *(Horsefeathers)*

Groucho (to Chico)**:** With a little bit of study you'll go a long way. And I wish you'd start now. *(Monkey Business)*

Groucho: I hope all your teeth have cavities, and don't forget abscess makes the heart grow fonder. *(Coconuts)*

Briggs: Listen, mug. Do you know who I am?
Groucho: Now don't tell me. Are you animal or vegetable? *(Monkey Business)*

HOUDINI:

The Greatest Showman on Earth

The year is 1908. The auditorium is packed to the rafters. The crowd buzzes with excitement as they wait for the world's greatest magician to make his appearance. Then out of the darkness steps the one and only Harry Houdini!

Houdini walks up to a large iron milk can in the center of the stage. Witnesses are called up to examine the can. They can find no trace of trickery or tampering. As Houdini's assistants fill the can with water, Houdini himself is handcuffed with strong police cuffs. Smiling confidently, he climbs into the can. The lid is hammered on and six padlocks lock it in place. A curtain is then closed in front of the can.

Thirty seconds pass. A few fans in the crowd who have held their breath for that time let it go, gasping for air. A minute, and then another 30 seconds pass. At the two-minute mark some people in the crowd begin to fear that Houdini has met a watery death. When the three-minute mark is reached, one of Houdini's assistants rushes onstage with a large ax to split open the can. Before he can swing, Houdini appears, water still dripping off his body!

The crowd gasps in disbelief. But they do believe their eyes because Harry Houdini has done the impossible before. Nothing could hold him—handcuffs, jail cells, safes or straitjackets; he has escaped them all!

Houdini's secret in the milk can escape was simple, yet ingenious. The milk can had been rigged but no one examining it could see how it was done. The can was actually two cans in one. They were fitted together very tightly. The inner can had no bottom, and it was the top of the inner can that was padlocked. Once Houdini was locked in, he would rotate the inner can until a secret catch was released. Once he had done that, he could push the inner can up, lid, padlocks, and all, from the shell of the outer can. The curtain hid all this as Houdini replaced the inner can so that it looked like just one can. Houdini had actually made his escape before a minute had gone by. He merely waited behind the curtain to add to the excitement.

The handcuffs proved to be no problem. Houdini had them off in seconds. He could get out of any cuffs because over the years he had learned all the intricate mechanisms used in all types of locks.

Once Houdini was humiliated onstage when a sly police officer who was supplying the cuffs slipped a piece of steel into the lock. The cuffs jammed and had to be sawed off.

Houdini's career was one of triumph, however. He was born into a poor family in 1876. His name was Ehrich Weiss then. He formed a magic act with his brother Theo and played in dime shows and museums around the country. Once, Theo nearly ended his brother's career with one slipup. Ehrich was to be locked in a trunk but Theo forgot the secret device that would free his

Illustration/Katrina Taylor

brother. The failure in front of a large audience postponed their making the big time for a few years. Shortly after that young Ehrich Weiss read of the French master magician, Robert Houdin. He took the name Harry Houdini and the rest is history.

Houdini was famous all over the world. He thrilled a large audience in London when he escaped from a locked bank safe. The safe had been delivered to Houdini 24 hours earlier, but expert locksmiths and a representative of the safe company swore there had been no tampering with the safe's locks. There was a doctor, the representative, and an umpire onstage with Houdini. As Houdini stood in the safe, the doctor examined his body and told the audience that Houdini had no secret devices hidden on his body. Houdini shook hands with the doctor and the umpire. Then the heavy steel door clanked shut. A large curtain was drawn around it.

The safe was airtight, so when 30 minutes passed, some in the crowed shouted, "Open the safe!" But Houdini had told his assistant he would knock for help. No knocks had been heard. After 40 minutes a woman pleaded with the theater manager to open the safe. Five minutes later, Houdini appeared!

The great escape artist had outwitted them all. How? The umpire with whom he shook hands was his friend and fellow magician Will Goldston. Goldston slipped Houdini a tiny lock pick that was attached to his ring! With the pick and his fantastic knowledge of locks, Houdini escaped in a matter of minutes!

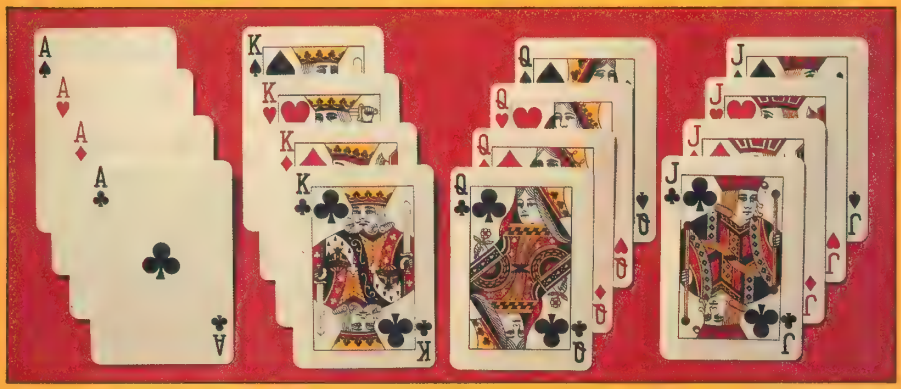
Most of Houdini's exploits were proof not only of his brilliance as an illusionist, but also of his excellent physical condition. He could hold his breath for a long time as he slowed his body activities down, like Indian fakirs do. Once Houdini was buried in a coffin six feet under the ground for an hour and a half! Another time Houdini plunged into the icy winter waters of the Detroit River with his hands cuffed. When he came to the surface he was free! Houdini thrilled New Yorkers when he hung upside down in a straitjacket off a skyscraper high above the city streets. It was these spectacular exploits, and the hard work that created them, that brought Houdini fame the world over.

It was also fame that led to Houdini's tragic death. One day before Houdini was to perform in Montreal, a college student came backstage to meet him. The student asked if it was true that Houdini could withstand hard punches to the stomach. Yes, Houdini said. Before he had a chance to tighten his muscles, the student punched three times. Later that night Houdini complained of pains in the stomach. He performed anyway. After the show he went to the hospital, where doctors found that his appendix had burst. Two weeks later, the greatest escape artist of all time couldn't escape death.

To this very day, Houdini's daring feats are unrivaled among magicians and illusionists. There have been very few people with the skills of Harry Houdini. Chances are it will be a long time before we see the likes of him again.

MAGIC WANDA'S FULL HOUSE TRICK

Photography / Paul DeGeorges



Hey, what's happening? This is Magic Wanda with some more monthly magic for you. I just got done levitating my pet rabbit Maharishi into the air. Maharishi had no idea what was happening, but he made it through his first hare-raising experience like a real ace. Speaking of aces, Ricky DeRath of Haslett, Michigan, sent me a great card trick. Here's how it goes.

THE TRICK

First you have to take all the aces, kings, queens, and jacks out of the deck. These will be the only cards used in the trick. Sort them so that the aces are together, the kings are together, as are the jacks and queens. Then put the aces face down on the table. Then put the four kings on top of the aces face down. Do the same with the jacks and then the queens. Your pile should now have the four queens on top. Now you're ready to start. As you do the trick you tell a little story. Begin by putting four queens down face up in separate piles and saying, "These four ladies came to a hotel and asked for rooms. The manager told four bellboys to carry their bags." Put the four jacks on each of the queens. Then say, "Four men came to the hotel and asked for rooms. The clerk forgot the ladies already occupied the rooms so he assigned them to the same rooms." Deal a king onto each pile as you say this. Then say, "When the men went into the ladies' rooms there was a big commotion, so the manager sent four policemen to the rooms." Deal an ace on top of each pile. Now pick up the piles, beginning with the one on your left and put that pile face up on the next one. Put that pile face up on the third pile and do the same with the fourth. Turn the cards right side up and ask anyone in the audience to cut the cards. Now you're ready to pull the ace out of your sleeve. Say, "When the whole commotion was over everybody ended up with their own rooms." Take the first four cards and deal them face up into four separate piles. Deal the rest of the cards in order onto each of the piles. You should end up with the queens, kings, aces, and jacks in their own piles (not necessarily in that order). I'm sure this card trick will make your audience flip!

Well, I've got to go now. Keep all those great tricks coming. Write: Magic Wanda, *Dynamite,* 50 W. 44th St., N.Y., NY 10036.

Love, Peace, and Magic,

Magic Wanda

HOT STUFF

HANDSOME PRINTS

Be generous! Give your whole fortune away! Not the fortune in your piggy bank, the one on the palm of your hand! All those little lines on your palm that supposedly tell your fortune can be removed and saved. All you need for this simple operation is some Elmer's Glue. Just squirt some glue onto one of your palms and spread it around evenly. Keep your hand flat and allow the glue to dry completely. Carefully peel it off. If you're careful enough you'll find yourself with a perfect handprint on your hands. Save it between two sheets of wax paper. Then, the next time someone asks you to lend them a hand, don't just lend it, *give* it!

This hand Hot Stuff T-shirt winning idea is from D. Crisman, Troy, PA.

YOU SAY GOOD-BY, AND I SAY JELLO

Extra! Extra! Read all about it! We've got the scoop on a shimmering, glimmering, scooper-star snack that's just as cool as ice cream, but nowhere near as cold!

You can make this melt-in-your-mouth dessert with any flavored gelatin, an electric mixer, and some empty ice cream cones. First, make the gelatin according to the directions on the package. Chill it for about an hour or until it is almost thickened completely. Then, beat it with the mixer on high speed until the gelatin froths up into a delicious-looking foam. Chill it a little longer, and when it seems set, scoop it into the cones. Treat yourself and your friends to this really chilling experience!

Julia Som from Mill Valley, CA, is a cool Hot Stuff T-shirt winner with this idea!

I WANNA HOLED YOUR HAND

Holey Ravioli! You won't believe you saw the hole thing! It's the most holesome optical illusion we could find and it's also one of the simplest. All it takes is a piece of notebook paper rolled up like a telescope. Hold the rolled paper up to your right eye with your right hand. Touch your left hand to the left side of the paper a little more than half way down the length of the roll. Keep both eyes open as you look through the paper roll and concentrate on what you see with your right eye. Lo and be holed! There's a hole in your hand! Go ahead and try it. We won't holed it against you!

Holed everything! Randy Rich of New Albany, OH, is a Hot Stuff T-shirt winner for this idea!

DRAW YOUR OWN BATH, KID!

Don't be shy, be positively bathful! Now you can turn tub-time into a bathing beauty of an experience with a fun new product called "Finger Paints for Dirty Kids." Village Bath Products has pulled the plug on boring baths and is showering the market with finger paints that turn into a tubful of bubbles when *you* turn on the water. For $5.00 you get a plastic artist's pallet and three 5-ounce jars of "paint" in red, blue, and yellow, all packed neatly in a box that looks like a book. Paint the tub or paint yourself or paint yourself on the tub! Your masterpiece will be all washed up when the water hits it, and your whole art career could go down the drain. Your paintings won't sell in the art galleries, but they'll really clean up in the tub! (Remember, you can't order this from *Dynamite,* but you *can* find it in department stores near you.)

May 1976

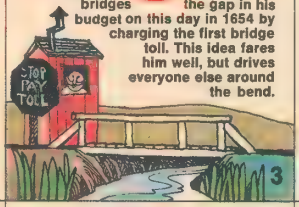
HUM SWEET HUM

Let's all pitch in and make a concerted effort to band together and live in harmony this week. After all, it's National Music Week, an event worth singing about!

2

TOLL HOUSE ROOKIE

Richard Thurlow bridges the gap in his budget on this day in 1654 by charging the first bridge toll. This idea fares him well, but drives everyone else around the bend.



3

TOP SECRET INFORMATION:

This message brought to you in honor of the first use of invisible ink in 1776.

4

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Edward Ravenscroft
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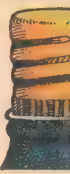

5

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

M is for the many things she gives us,
It also stands for Mother, you'll observe.
On Mother's Day I think it is
important,
To give our mothers just what
they deserve.
Lima beans, chopped spinach,
calves liver,
Broccoli and brussel sprouts and peas—
Perfect gifts like these we all can give her,
And what's left, dear Mother, you
can freeze.

9

FOUL PLAY

Fouls are fair game at the Virginia Poultry Festival where "birds of a feather stick together" becomes "the family that flies together, fries together." Long live a la King!

10

SINKER SWIM

Worm your way into this reel-y big event. Don't flounder around. It's Let's Go Fishing Week and once you try it you'll be hooked!

11

TAKE FIVE

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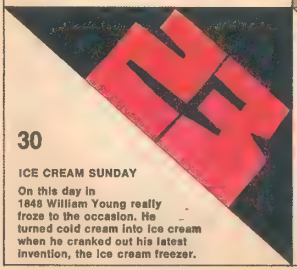

ICE CREAM SUNDAY

On this day in 1848 William Young really froze to the occasion. He turned cold cream into ice cream when he cranked out his latest invention, the ice cream freezer.

24 What's green, then yellow, green, then yellow, green, then yellow? A pickle that has a part-time job as a banana.

Guess what? It's National Pickle Week again and in keeping with this occasion, we'll also tell you that it's Bob Dill-on's birthday. Dylan: c/o Columbia Records, 51 West 52nd St., NY, NY 10019.

FLY THE FRIENDLY SKIES, UNITED

When Marjorie Dumont and R. W. Meade said they wanted a plane wedding, no one knew that they meant in a real airplane. They were married 2000 feet above Houston, Texas, on this day in 1919. You might say their marriage got off to a flying start!

31

Psychiatrist: I wouldn't worry about your son just because all he likes to do is make mud pies. Mother: But I do worry, and so does his wife! This sick joke brought to you in honor of Mental Health Month.

25

Sunday **Monday** **Tuesday** **Wedn**

May 1976

Illustration / Wayne Kosaka

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

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Edward Ravenscroft decides he can't keep his idea bottled up inside him anymore, so he patents the first screw-on bottle top in 1936. His invention caps a glorious career in the bottle field.

5

Six

Q. What do you call a dog who can run 60 mph, is a champion swimmer, and speaks three languages?
A. Spot.

It's National Be Kind To Animals Week, so don't tell that joke to your dog!
Also be kind to Robert Hegyes, Epstein of *Welcome Back, Kotter*, since it's his birthday. Robert c/o ABC-TV 4151 Prospect Ave., L.A., CA 90027

7

MOUTHING, OFF!

There's no kidding around allowed today. It's Children Should Be Seen And Not Heard Day. Give your folks a break by being the strong silent type.

One kid we should hear a lot about today is Melissa Gilbert! It's her birthday. Melissa: c/o NBC-TV, 3000 W. Alameda, Burbank, CA 91505

8

WHAT'S DUNE?

The world's top sandmen and women will be heading for Lido Beach, Florida, today to show off their greatest grain-storms. The international Sand Castle Building Contest is moat-ivation for building the greatest mounds bar none.

1

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The petal pushers of Holland, Michigan, say that a rose is a rose is a rose, but tulips are better than one—especially this week during their annual Tulip Festival

13

S.W.A.T.'s NEW?

It's Police Week. We don't mean to badge-r you, but copping out on this celebration would be criminal. So be a perpetrator, vacate your premises, and proceed to your local precinct and say "hi."

14

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Train your feet to fly to the nearest bus and take a ride, it's National Transportation Week, plainly a moving event worth cheering a-boat!
Another cheery event—Pete Townsend, lead guitarist of The Who has a birthday. Pete: MCA Records, 445 Park Ave., NY, NY 10022

19

D. Hyde penpoints the writer's problem, then solves it by inventing the first fountain pen today in 1630.

20

SAY UNCLE!

Or aunt, or cousin, or grandmother. It's Annual Visit Your Relatives Day—if you kin dig it.

21

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL ARMADILLO

They'll be raising a ruckus deep in the heart of Texas today as the International Armadillo Contab and Exposition opens. Highlights of this thrilling event include armadillo rooting and barrowing, selection of Miss Vacant Lot, and fun for armadillos of all ages!

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27

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800 nat nuts volley for the table tennis championship this week. This self-serving event scores with Ping Pongers from all over the world.

28

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Illustration / Werner Kappes

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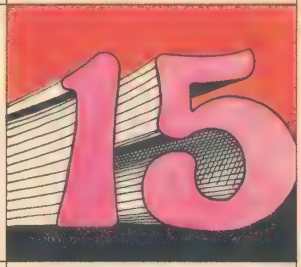

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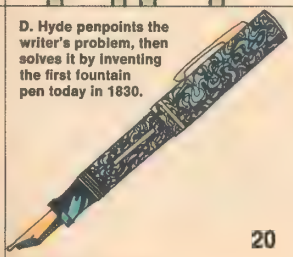

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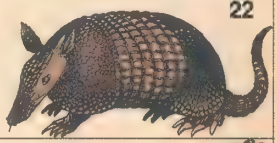

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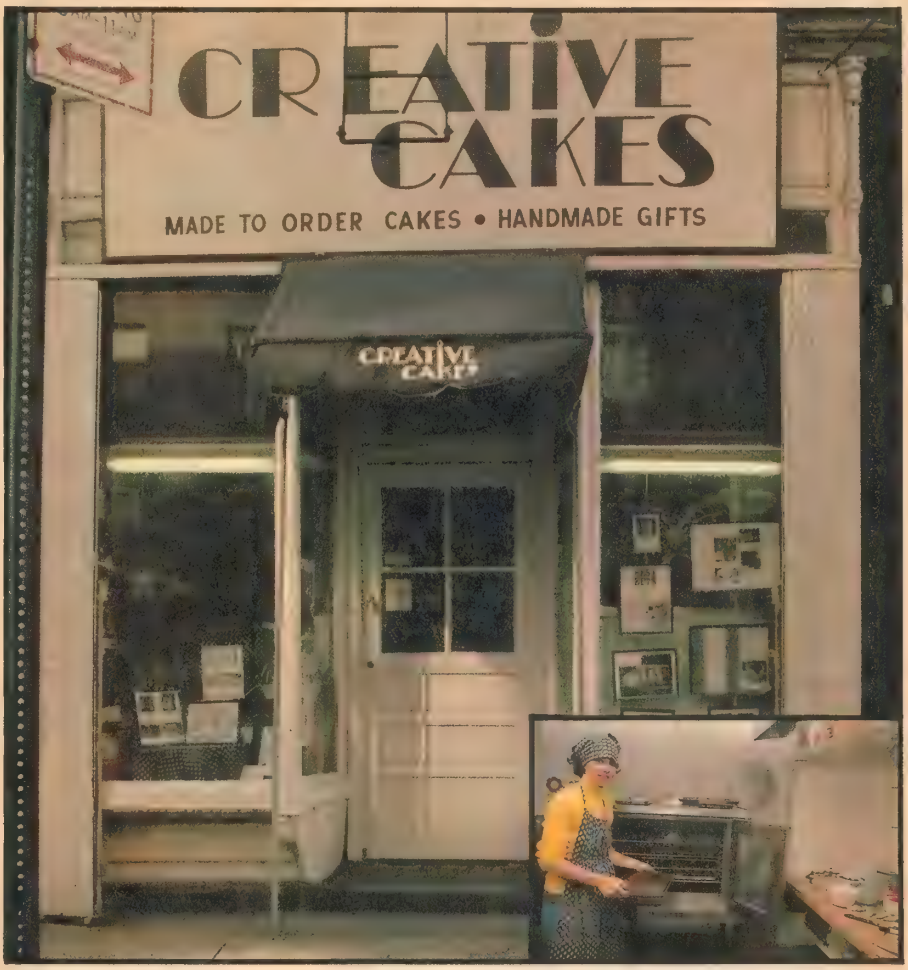

World's Best Crumby Artist!

"Hello? I'd like to order a cake in the shape of a pair of sneakers, please." Tell that to most bakers, and they'll probably tell you that they don't deliver cakes to the funny farm! But give that order to Stephanie Crookston of Creative Cakes, and she'll just ask you if the sneakers should be size 10 or 12. Stephanie has won fame and fortune as the Queen of Cake Customizers. She has a tiny shop in New York City where she whips up some of the most amazing cakes we've ever seen.

"Nobody really taught me to bake," Stephanie told us when we visited her shop. "When I was a kid, my mother cleaned up my messes and just let me go at it!"

Stephanie has never had an art lesson either, but you'd never believe it to look at her creations. She can draw anything, and she doesn't use paint—she uses icing. She's made cakes that look like Big Macs, a tennis racquet cake for Arthur Ashe, a camera for Marlo Thomas, and cakes with portraits of Elton John and Muhammad Ali. In fact, it was a portrait cake that got Stephanie started in this business.

"I made a cake for my boss with a picture of him on it. We were having a luau party for him, so I drew him in a grass skirt doing a hula. When I put the coconut on for his beard, the whole cake just came alive!" Soon after that, Stephanie quit her old job and started Creative Cakes.

Stephanie's cakes are always chocolate, but the icing and decoration can be anything! "I don't use cake molds. I make plain sheet cakes which I carve according to the paper pattern I make. I don't use any special tools, just knives and pans and paper tubes for the icing.

"I guess my best cake was the Monopoly game board I did for Parker Brothers," Stephanie said. "It took a lot of work, but it looked just like a real board. I also really like the wedding cake I did for a couple who run a bridge club. It had a King of Spades and a Queen of Hearts on it!

"The easiest cakes to make are the ones that just have writing on them. They don't take a lot of mixing of colors, which is really what takes the most time. By the way, everything on the cakes is edible."

Stephanie only bakes for people in the New York area, because she can't mail the cakes. But she's kept busy baking six to ten cakes a day. Her satisfied customers pay between $25 and $500 per cake.

What other cakes has she done? Cakes shaped like animals from pigs to tigers, race cars, Rolls Royces, credit cards, Raggedy Ann dolls, Charlie Brown, sewing machines, sneakers, sharks, golf bags, baskets filled with flowers, Mickey Mouse, and even half a camera for a photographer's half birthday! And now Count Morbida! Whew!

"And they're all delicious," Stephanie said. Which only goes to show you can paint your cake and eat it too!

Name Droppers

"What's in a name? A rose by any other name would smell as sweet." Well, maybe . . . but if roses were called poison ivy, would you still want to pick one? Names can be a thorny problem. They can really change the way you think about things—especially the way you think about people.

For example, James Aurness might have made just as good a sheriff as JIM ARNESS (the new name chosen by *Gunsmoke's* Matt Dillon). But would you have hired a detective named Krekor Ohanian? TV's Mannix wasn't taking any chances, so he got on the case and changed his name to MIKE CONNORS. And would you have followed Frances Gumm over the rainbow? Frances didn't think you would, so when a fellow actor suggested a name change, she chose JUDY GARLAND.

Many entertainers and writers change their names to fit the image they'd like to have. Krekor, Jim, and Frances aren't the only dropped names that *Dynamite* scooped up. What others did we find? Namely these:

At nine, he was running around Motown Records, playing every instrument in the place. So people started calling Steveland Morris the little boy wonder. The name stuck—he grew up to be the wondrous STEVIE WONDER.

Eugene Morris Orowitz was a star athlete until he injured his elbow throwing the javelin. He didn't want his name to injure his career, so he changed it to MICHAEL LANDON before moving to a *Little House on the Prairie.*

James Bumgarner thought the first part of his last name might be a bummer for a star. So his name went down in the *Rockford Files* as JAMES GARNER.

Who ever heard of rock star Reginald Dwight? No one. That's because Reg changed his name to ELTON JOHN before becoming the man of a thousand glasses. (He borrowed his name from English rock musicians John Baldry and Elton Dean.)

Peter Aurness, brother of Jim Aurness, thought it might be a mission impossible to become a star with his last name. So he chose a name that's deadly serious—PETER GRAVES.

Famous *Medical Center* brain surgeon Ray Cramton thought the name CHAD EVERETT would keep 'em in stitches. He was right!

You remember little Michael Gubitosi as Mickey in the *Our Gang* comedies, don't you? You don't? That's probably because he changed his name to ROBERT BLAKE long before becoming Baretta.

They say that changing your name improves your image. But when Arnold George Dorsey adopted the name of an early German opera composer and became ENGLEBERT HUMPERDINCK, we began to wonder!

When Walter Matasschanskayasky's parents came to America, they shortened their Russian name to Matthau. It's a good thing—WALTER MATTHAU would never have made *The Front Page* with his old name. It would have been longer than the headlines! And Louis B. Mayer, the famous movie producer, knew that Spangler Arlington Brugh could never be a star. So he changed Spangler's name to ROBERT TAYLOR!

A Miracle on 34th Street starred Little Natasha Gurdin, but it's no miracle if you don't recognize the name. You know her as NATALIE WOOD.

And then we come to these big stars: Alexandra Zuck, Allen Stewart Konigsberg, and Claude Russell Bridges. Give up? You might recognize them better as SANDRA DEE, WOODY ALLEN, and LEON RUSSELL.

What's in a name? *Everything!*

FRANCES GUMM

STEVELAND MORRIS

REGINALD DWIGHT

Illustration/Franco Accornero

And Now A Word From Our Sponsor

Illustration / Sandy Huffaker

Kids, start begging your parents for money! You're going to need a lot of it when you start collecting the great new army of G.I.Jim dolls!

1-2-tenhut! wallets out- 2-3-4!

G.I.JIM FROM COSTLY TOYS, INC. Tell your parents you want a Costly Toy!

G.I.Jim is off on another mission, and you are in complete control!

Uniform and G.I.Jim Doll sold separately. Scenery not included. Jet pack sold separately.

You can fly G.I.Jim to his next exciting battle in the G.I.Jim helicopter with ejector seat and parachute!

Helicopter sold separately. Batteries not included. Ejector seat and parachute sold separately. G.I.Jim's head and body sold separately.

And now you can buy this super accessory kit for G.I.Jim!

Far out!

G.I.JIM KIT

Each Kit contains:

G.I.Jim Combat Hairdryer

G.I.Jim suntan lotion

G.I.Jim Umbrella

G.I.Jim Concert Piano

G.I.Jim Cufflinks

G.I.Jim Bowtie

G.I.Jim Rubber Duckie

G.I.Jim Adhesive Bullet Holes

G.I.Jim Atom Bomb

And you'll want to buy all of G.I.Jim's pals too!

G.I.Melvin G.I.Sheldon G.I.Martha

Stevie Houston, The Bionic Boy, and G.I. Fluffy, The Bionic Dog.

Start buying today!! We'll have a whole new line of dolls out by tomorrow! Bionic fleas for Fluffy are sold separately!

SUPER-HEROES CONFIDENTIAL

This Month: Thor Goes On An Ego Trip

Imagine landing on a strange planet where every single thing on it could suddenly come alive and turn into an instrument of destruction. That's exactly the situation that The Mighty Thor finds himself in when he faces his weirdest and most powerful foe, Ego, The Living Planet. Beyond a shadow of a doubt, The Living Planet has to be one of the weirdest villains in comic book history. Watch now as Thor and his companions witness The Living Planet's amazing power. The Thunder God himself is in for an earthshaking blast, as Ego introduces himself with a giant flying fist. You'll see why The Living Planet is a world of trouble for the Immortal Avenger!

AT THAT SPLIT-SECOND AS THOUGH IN IRONIC MOCKERY OF HILDEGARDE'S THOUGHTS, A MASSIVE FIST UNEXPECTEDLY STRIKES A FLYING GOD OF THUNDER--ON A WORLD LIGHT-YEARS DISTANT FROM ASGARD--
WHA
--A LORD WHOSE NAME IS EGO!
HERCULES, FIRELORD--BEWARE! THE BATTLE BEGINS ANEW, AND THIS TIME--WE STRUGGLE WITH EGO HIMSELF!
YEA, EGO--OR HIS EFFIGY!
TELL ME, MONSTER--ART THOU THE MADMAN, OR THE MADMAN'S SLAVE? AND MORE--HOW DIDST THOU APPEAR SO SUDDENLY--
--LIKE A GHOST FROM OUT OF THE AIR?
KNOW THIS, GODLING--I AM NO GHOST, BUT EGO PERSONIFIED!
MY FLESH IS THE FLESH OF THIS PLANET--MY BODY, THE STONE AT YOUR FEET!
THIS FORM EXISTS BECAUSE I CREATED IT--
SO THAT WHEN I CRUSH YOU, I MAY SEE YOUR PATHETIC FACE!

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THEN THOU ART MORE THE FOOL THAN I THOUGHT!
IN TRUTH, THOU ART THE PLANET, EGO--BUT I AM THOR--
--AND THOR IS THE LORD OF THUNDER!
YOUR HAMMER --BLASTING ME WITH LIGHTNING!
DO YOU REALLY IMAGINE YOU CAN DEFEAT ME WITH A STORM?
NOT A STORM, EGO--A HURRICANE! A GALE! A TORNADO--!
ALL THE WINDS OF THIS WORLD ARE MINE TO COMMAND, AND COMMAND THEM I SHALL--
RRRRRRUMBBBBBLE
--TILL THEIR FORCE OVER-WHELMS THEE!
IT'S WORKING, THOR. YOUR WINDS HAVE CREATED AN EARTHQUAKE-- THE LIGHTNING HAS FIRED THE MOLTEN SOIL AROUND HIM--
YOU'RE DRIVING HIM BACK INTO THE GROUND-- YOU'VE DEFEATED EGO!

AN EERIE EXPOSITION OF THE EARTHSHAKING EVIL OF EGO

What kind of powers does Ego have?

Since Ego is an entire planet composed of living matter, he can harness all the forces and energies found in his huge domain. Ego can unite these forces to form a blast of pure power. Ego can also reassemble the molecules that make up The Living Planet into any shape he wants. When Thor first arrived upon The Living Planet, Ego formed a replica of Asgard, Thor's home, to make The Thunder God feel more comfortable. But when Thor resisted Ego's plans of conquering other worlds, Ego revealed the deadly strength of his power. He formed and brought to life an army of powerful creatures to battle Thor. Thor had his hands full as Ego created more and more creatures from the huge mass within The Living Planet. Then Ego unleashed a gigantic tidal wave that nearly engulfed Thor and fierce winds that swept mountains of rock into his path. Luckily, Thor managed to break Ego's deadly grip and escape.

What brought Thor to The Living Planet?

It all began when a band of aliens landed on Earth. They were colonizers from a distant planet called Rigel. The aliens had plans to take over Earth but they had no idea that Thor would get in their way. The aliens were armed with highly advanced devices that could control the Earth's orbit. When Thor confronted the aliens and ordered them to break their force field, they overpowered him with their weapons and transported him to Rigel. On the way Thor broke loose and gained control of their ship. When he landed on Rigel, Thor ordered them to break the hold they had over Earth. The leader of Rigel struck a bargain with Thor. He would release Earth if Thor would consent to help them against their deadly enemy who lay beyond in The Black Galaxy. Thor agreed to help and took off in one of their ships into the domain of The Living Planet.

What is the origin of The Living Planet?

Long ago, the civilization on another planet was threatened with doom because their sun was about to explode. A brilliant scientist named Egros devised a way to put the population into suspended animation. But a miscalculation was made and the sun exploded minutes before Egros himself could be suspended. As the explosion engulfed the planet, radiation fused all the suspended population with the planet itself. It was Egros' mind that became the mind of Ego when all the living matter fused to form a living world. The planet remained dormant until colonizers from Rigel disturbed the balance that held Ego in check. Then The Living Planet began its own power-hungry mission.

How did Thor finally defeat The Living Planet?

Thor didn't do it alone. It took help from Hercules and the powerful Galactus. Thor went deep below Ego's crust to the very center where the center of Ego's intelligence was. There, Thor blasted Ego's brain with his hammer, while Galactus transported a powerful rocket to Ego's axis that sent Ego deeper into space. However Ego was only stunned by Thor's blow and may return someday.

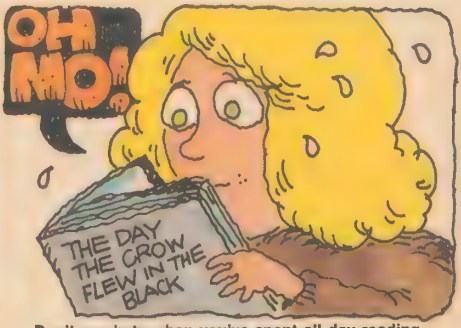
BUMMERS

Join the Group Gripe by sending in your own pet peeve. A DYNAMITE artist might just pick your idea to illustrate! Mail all cranky suggestions to: DYNAMITE, 50 West 44th Street, New York, N.Y. 10036. We'll pay $5.00 for every gripe we use.

Don't you hate when your teacher takes you out in the hall for a little talk! Wendy Morin, Neenah, WI

Don't you hate when you get a flu shot and then you get the flu! Robin Daures, San Diego, CA

Don't you hate when the only clean socks you've got are one red and one pink!



Don't you hate when you've spent all day reading a mystery book and find out that someone has torn out the last chapter!

Don't you hate when someone sends you a get-well card and you're not even sick!

Don't you hate when you raise your hand and then you give the wrong answer! Jeanne Jameson, Berryton, KS

Illustration / Jared Lee

COUNT MORBIDA'S MONTHLY PUZZLE PAGES

WELL, IF IT ISN'T THE PESTERING PIPSQUEAKS AGAIN, BACK TO BOTHER ME, THE PERILOUS PRINCE OF PAIN AND MY HEARTLESS HORRIBELLA. YOU'VE NO DOUBT HEARD THAT WE'RE JOINING A PRIVATE GROUP AND YOU WANT TO JOIN TOO. FORGET IT, FRUMPS! THE NAME OF THE GROUP IS HIDDEN UNDER THE NUMBERS THAT ADD UP TO 22. ADD 'EM UP FAST, BUT DON'T COUNT ON BEING ADDED TO THE GROUP, GRUBS. YUK YUK!

6+9= A	11+11= G	19+2= K	17+5= H	15+3= J
13+9= O	8+7= B	6+16 U	10+11= V	2+7= Q
6+9= W	15+7= L	5+5= Z	12+1= C	20+2= S
3+19= C	7+7= E	14+8 O	13+7= D	4+4= F
3+3= M	4+18= U	9+9= P	12+10= T	5+17= S

WORM WELTS! YOU WIGGLING WIMPS WORMED YOUR WAY THROUGH THAT SICKLY STICKLER AND ARE CATCHING UP TO US! WE'LL LOSE YOU BUSY-BODIES YET! IN FACT, WE'VE ALREADY LOST SOME PARTS OF YOUR BODIES. BETTER TAKE TIME OUT TO FIND THEM. DROP TWO LETTERS FROM EACH WORD TO FIND THE MISSING BODY PARTS. THIS ONE WILL HAVE YOU IN STITCHES! HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!

1. charm ___ ___ ___
2. thread ___ ___ ___ ___
3. stone ___ ___ ___
4. earth ___ ___ ___
5. noises ___ ___ ___
6. legal ___ ___ ___
7. whips ___ ___ ___

COUNT MORBIDAS

MONTHLY PUZZLE PAGES

WELL, IF IT ISN'T THE DESTERING PIPSQUEAKS AGAIN, BACK TO BOTHER ME. THE PERILOUS PRINCE OF PAIN AND MY HEARTLESS HORRIBELLA. YOU'VE NO DOUBT HEARD THEY'RE JOINING A PRIVATE GROUP AND YOU WANT TO JOIN TOO. FORGET IT, FRUMPS! THE NAME OF THE GROUP IS HIDDEN UNDER THE NUMBERS THAT ADD UP TO 22. ADD 'EM UP FAST, BUT DON'T COUNT ON BEING ADDED TO THE GROUP, GRUBS. YUK YUK!

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1. charm _ _ _
2. threat _ _ _ _
3. stone _ _ _
4. earth _ _ _ _
5. noises _ _ _ _
6. legal _ _ _ _
7. whips _ _ _ _

MUMMY GUMS! YOU BUMBLING MUMPS GOT YOURSELVES TOGETHER AND NOW YOU THINK YOU'RE IN SHAPE TO JOIN THE GROUP, NOT SO FAST, STUMBLE-BUNS. YOU'LL NEED TO KNOW THE MONSTERS MOTTO BEFORE YOU CAN GET IN. TO FIND IT, FILL IN THE DEFINITIONS, THEN WRITE THE LETTERS IN THE PUZZLE'S MATCHING NUMBER BLANKS. THIS ONE TAKES TIME AND BRAINS. TOO BAD YOU'VE ONLY GOT TIME! SNICKER, SNICKER!

A. The Lone Ranger's friend Tonto
_ _ _ _ _
13 9 12 3 15 9

B. A thought.
"I have a great _____!"
17 6 16 1

C. Lots of food will _____ lots of hungry monsters.
_ _ _ _ _
16 10 25 23

D. I was sick, but now I feel _____.
(rhymes with dine)
_ _ _ _
2 7 22 4

E. "I'm sick again! _____ for the doctor!"
(rhymes with bend)
_ _ _ _
14 24 5 20

F. To eat dinner.
(rhymes with fine)
_ _ _ _
26 21 19 11

START
FINISH
FANG FUZZ! YOU FOUND THE MONSTER'S MOTTO! YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE BUT TO THROW YOU INTO THIS DIZZYING PRISON MAZE WHICH YOU'LL NEVER GET OUT OF! GOOD-BYE KIDDIES. THIS IS MY ROUND-ABOUT WAY OF SAYING "SEE YOU AROUND... AND AROUND... AND AROUND....! YUK YUK!

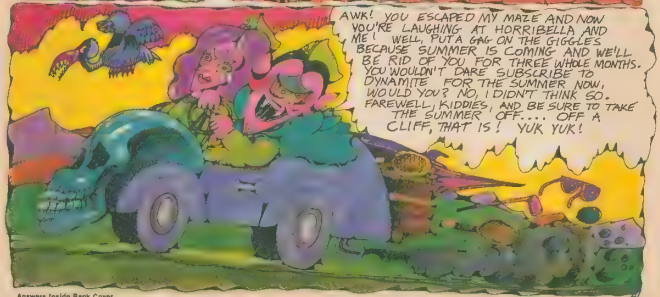
AWK! YOU ESCAPED MY MAZE AND NOW YOU'RE LAUGHING AT HORRIBELLA AND ME! WELL PUT A GAG ON THE GIGGLES BECAUSE SUMMER IS COMING AND WE'LL BE RID OF YOU FOR THREE WHOLE MONTHS. YOU WOULDN'T DARE SUBSCRIBE TO DYNAMITE FOR THE SUMMER NOW, WOULD YOU? NO, I DIDN'T THINK SO. FAREWELL, KIDDIES, AND BE SURE TO TAKE THE SUMMER OFF.... OFF A CLIFF, THAT IS! YUK YUK!

Illustration / Arthur Friedman

Answers Inside Back Cover

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16 10 25 23

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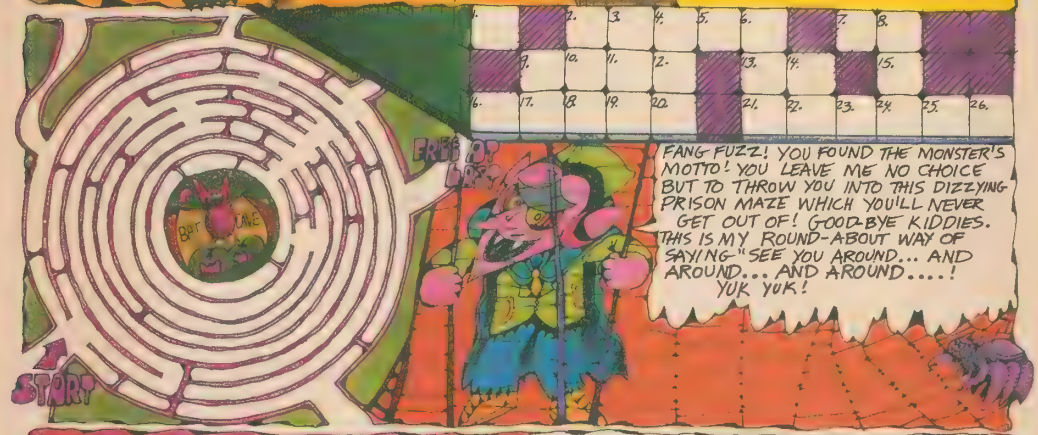
2 7 22 4

E. "I'm sick again! _____ for the doctor!" (rhymes with bend) ___ ___ ___ ___
14 24 5 20

F. To eat dinner. (rhymes with fine) ___ ___ ___ ___
26 21 19 11


1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8.
9. 10. 11. 12. 13. 14. 15.
16. 17. 18. 19. 20. 21. 22. 23. 24. 25. 26.
BAT CAVE
FREE BOY
START
FANG FUZZ! YOU FOUND THE MONSTER'S MOTTO! YOU LEAVE ME NO CHOICE BUT TO THROW YOU INTO THIS DIZZYING PRISON MAZE WHICH YOU'LL NEVER GET OUT OF! GOOD-BYE KIDDIES. THIS IS MY ROUND-ABOUT WAY OF SAYING "SEE YOU AROUND... AND AROUND... AND AROUND....! YUK YUK!

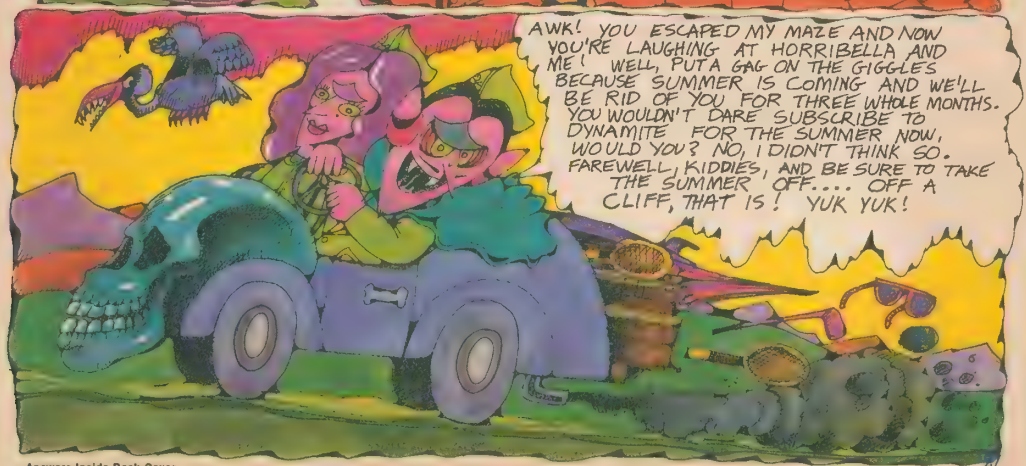

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Illustration / Arthur Friedman

Answers Inside Back Cover

Real Winners!

The Greatest Comebacks in Sports!

Illustration: Dick Hiskey

Left to right: Dave Bing, John Hiller, Babe Didrickson Zaharias, Tom Dempsey, Rocky Bleier.

Illness! Injury! Two of the worst words in the English language. When someone in the family is sick or hurt, we really worry. But for an athlete, illness and injury can spell D-O-O-M!

But not always! Many athletes have overcome serious illnesses, handicaps, or injuries and have gone on to bigger and better things.

Take Babe Didrickson Zaharias, for example. Many of you saw her moving story on TV last fall. Perhaps the greatest woman athlete ever, Babe overcame a serious cancer operation to once again become a top golfer. That took courage.

Though Pete Gray had only one arm, he managed to play major league baseball with the St. Louis Browns 30 years ago. Outfielder Gray would catch a ball, toss it in the air, remove his glove, catch the ball again with his now-bare hand, and throw it back to the infield. That took courage, too.

There are dozens of stories of athletes who managed to overcome illness and injury. Some of them are still doing their thing on the big-league playing fields, courts, and rinks.

John Hiller

HEART ATTACK! The words send shudders up your spine. Heart attacks can kill. For an athlete, it's about the worst possible illness. So when a heart attack struck down Detroit Tiger pitcher John Hiller in January, 1971, his teammates were just glad he was alive. They never dreamed they'd see him in a Detroit uniform again.

Were they ever wrong! John nursed himself back to health through 1971 and half of 1972. Doctors performed a special operation which controlled John's weight and blood fat. And then, just as suddenly as Hiller's heart attack hit, there he was back on the

Tiger Stadium mound. And, believe it or not, he was better than ever!

His first full season back on the job (1973), Hiller was baseball's top relief pitcher. He appeared in 65 games---tops in the American League, struck out 124 batters in 125 innings, and won 10 games while losing only five. He won nearly every award he could possibly win, but most important, he won his battle for life and health. John Hiller had beaten a heart attack!

Tom Dempsey

Pro football has its left-footed kickers and its right-footed kickers. But there's only one half-footed kicker. That's the Los Angeles Rams' Tom Dempsey.

Tom was born without a right hand and without half of his right foot. That would be enough to stop many people, but not Tom Dempsey.

Unlike most of today's kickers, Tom is a real football player. At Palomar (CA) Junior College, he was an All-Conference defensive end. But Tom wasn't satisfied. He was determined to make it in the pros.

Using a special shoe, Tom developed a super-strong right leg. He's one of the most powerful kickers in the game.

At New Orleans in 1970, Dempsey booted a record 63-yard field goal. The last-second boot from his own 37-yard line enabled Tom's Saints to defeat the Detroit Lions.

He continued his great kicking with the Philadelphia Eagles from 1971-74, setting an Eagle club record with a 54-yard field goal and winning the Philly sportswriters' Most Courageous Athlete Award. And in '75, he helped L.A. to the NFC West title.

Dave Bing

When the Detroit Pistons traded their long-time star Dave Bing to Washington last summer, it was headline news on the sports page. That Dave Bing was still playing basketball and playing it well was almost as big a surprise!

After a sparkling career at Syracuse University, Dave jumped right into the Pistons' starting lineup in 1966. His reward for a 20-points-per-game first season: the NBA Rookie-of-the-Year award.

Dave continued to score at a more than 23-point pace for the next four seasons until disaster struck. A freak accident. Dave suffered a detached retina. That's a serious eye injury. At best, it leaves you with blurred vision. At worst, it can lead to blindness.

Did it stop Dave? Hardly. He missed 37 games during the 1971-72 season, but still came back to average 22.6 points per game in 45 games that year. Despite his still slightly blurry vision, Bing continues to pour in points like the great all-star he is!

Rocky Bleier

Rocky Bleier lost a chunk of his right leg, part of his right foot, and, very nearly, his life in Vietnam. When the grenade which knocked Rocky out of the war exploded, the injured Bleier was thrown on top of another American soldier. Bleier's buddy was dead.

Rocky's injured foot and leg became infected while he waited for treatment. Army doctors even thought about amputating part of the leg. Fortunately for the Pittsburgh Steelers, they didn't.

Rocky earned a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star for his heroism. But the NFL doesn't give points for service awards. They pay off for performance on the football field.

For a long while, it looked like Bleier would never again play football. After his foot was repaired, Rocky began working out. "I couldn't run," he says. "I couldn't cut. My foot would swell up and the pain was unbelievable."

So Rocky went to work. What work! He lifted weights and ran and ran. The comeback was slow. Rocky played on Pittsburgh's special teams, returning kicks and making fierce tackles.

But Rocky made it. A couple of seasons later the old Notre Damer came all the way back to the Super Bowl!

WIN A BIKE!

This terrific Sears Free Spirit ten-speed bike can be yours! We're giving away one of these bikes to the lucky winner we pick at random in this month's questionnaire drawing. Just fill out the questionnaire below (or copy it over onto a piece of paper) and send it to:

Dynamite
50 West 44th Street
New York, NY 10036.

When we pick the winner on June 1, we'll announce it in one of the summer *Dynamites*. If you win, we'll let you know in advance. Contest void where prohibited by law.

Just You Wait!

HERE'S SOME INSIDE STUFF ABOUT WHAT'S COMING UP IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF *DYNAMITE.*

Let's Go To the Hop: It's time to rock and roll with *Dynamite's* special Nifty Fifties Party issue. Everything you need to have your own Sock Hop: decorations, games, food ideas, a super centerpiece, and more!

Elvis, Then and Now: He was the king of 50's Rock and Roll; his fans say he's still number one today!

Are You Funny? A ridiculous comedy test—guaranteed to prove you're a laugh riot!

Truck Driver Radio Talk: Read this and you'll understand every word of C. W. McCall's "Convoy"!

Plus: A Jukebox poster with a fantastic game on the back! Record label stickers with long-playing laughs!

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

I am a girl _____ boy _____ Age _____ Grade _____

I get *Dynamite* in school _____ I have a subscription to *Dynamite* _____

Number of times I have bought *Dynamite* before (roughly) _____

Answers these questions:

1. What person (besides yourself or your friends—we mean a famous person) would you most like to read about in *Dynamite?* _____

2. Do you buy records? _____

3. What was the last record you bought? _____

4. Who's your favorite singer or musical group? _____

5. List your three favorite TV shows _____

6. Do you have a hobby? _____ What is it? _____

Now it's time for our report card. Grade all of the articles in this month's *Dynamite*. Give 4 points if you thought the article was *excellent*, 3 for *well done*, 2 for *so-so*, 1 for *pretty bad*, and 0 for *forget it*. Be honest, we don't look at the answers until after we pick the bike winner. Okay, go!

Meet the Sweat Hogs _____

Autograph Poems _____

Groucho's Greatest Hits _____

Houdini _____

Magic Wands _____

Hot Stuff _____

Calendar _____

Cake Customizer _____

Name Droppers _____

And Now a Word From Our Sponsor _____

Super-Heroes Confidential (Thor vs. Ego) _____

Bummers _____

Count Morbida _____

Real Winners (sports story) _____

Good Vibrations _____

Back Cover Maze _____

Stationery _____

Good Vibrations

Thank you for all the interesting letters you've been sending me. I'm glad that many of you find writing to "Good Vibrations" a good way to express your feelings.

"I HATE GYM..."

Dear Dr. Kernberg,

I have a problem with gym class. The kids make fun of me because I am overweight and I'm not any good in sports. I hate gym so much that I'm always hassling my parents to write me excuses to miss gym. Sometimes I can't face it. I do well in all my other school subjects, but gym is my big problem. My parents don't believe that a 12-year-old boy can really have a serious problem. What should I do?

D., Pennsylvania

Dear D.,

I understand that gym is giving you a problem; most people don't enjoy things that they aren't good at. But gym is an important activity for kids your age, especially if you have a weight problem. I suggest that you talk to your gym teacher. Explain that you get upset when the kids tease you and when you can't perform well. He may be able to suggest special exercises that will help you get more coordinated. Also talk to your parents and your doctor about your weight problem. If you lose some weight you will be able to perform better and you'll feel better. In this way, you can convince your parents that this is an important matter to you.

"THIS GIRL IS FOLLOWING ME"

Dear Dr. Kernberg,

There is a girl who is always following me around. I try to give her hints that she's bugging me, but nothing helps. If I told her straight out, she'd go to my father. My father likes her as much as if she were his own kid. (When he buys me a gift, he always buys her one too.) Help!

S., Maryland

Dear S.,

As a young person, you certainly have the right to pick your own friends. You should try to explain this to your father. But here's something else to think about. Maybe the reason this girl bugs you so much is because your father likes her so much. Do you think you could be a little jealous? It's a very normal reaction to be a little jealous of other kids (like brothers or sisters) who get attention from your parents. Think about it; maybe this girl isn't really so bad after all.

"MY DOG DIED"

Dear Dr. Kernberg,

Two months ago, my dog died. I can't stop thinking about him and the way he looked when he died. I have a new dog now, but I keep dreaming about the old one. I can still see him in my mind.

H., Washington

Dear H.,

I guess we can all understand how bad you feel. It's terrible to lose a pet, especially since for most kids losing a pet is their first experience with death. Don't worry if you still think and dream about this. In time you will come to love your new dog and you will get over your grief. In the meantime, don't be afraid to talk or think about what happened to the dog that died. It helps to get your sad feelings out.

If you have any feelings or questions you'd like to share with other *Dynamite* readers, you can write to me at this address: Dr. Paulina Kernberg, *Dynamite,* 50 West 44th Street, New York, NY 10036. (Sorry, no answers by mail.)

Don't Open Until Summer!

Sorry, gang, but you can't get your mitts on these super summer *Dynamites* until you subscribe! No tears, now. It's easy to subscribe. Just fill out the coupon below and send it with $2.50, preferably in a check or money order made out to *Dynamite*. Send it to:

DYNAMITE
BOX 2005
ENGLEWOOD, NJ 07631

You'll get a new *Dynamite* delivered right to your house in July, August, and September. OR send $9.00 and you'll get a new *Dynamite* every month for a year!

Okay, okay, we'll give you a little peek at some of the stuff in the summer *Dynamites:*

SPACE 1999: Can this show measure up to *Star Trek?*

THE BIONIC WOMAN: Exciting photos and an exclusive interview with the Six Million Dollar Ms.

A FEW OF OUR FAVORITE THINGS: Like The Thing from Outer Space—a movie monster round-up. *Plus* a free movie monster poster!

KING OF THE COMIC BOOK COLLECTORS. This kid has more comics than anyone, and he'll give you some info on what your comics are worth!

THE SAN DIEGO ZOO: Backstage at the world's greatest zoo!

MINI-HORSES: Real horses no bigger than dogs—their owners say they're great pets!

THE BAY CITY ROLLERS: Will they really make it?

THE STRANGE STORY OF ALFRED E. NEUMAN: Why is his face a mystery? Is Alf really 200 years old?

FRED LYNN: Is the young Red Sox MVP the greatest baseball player of all time?

Plus: A beautiful punch-out Mobile! Crazy Stickers, Count Morbida, Bummers, Calendars, and more.

DYNAMITE SUBSCRIPTION OFFER—1976

Check one only

4A ☐ Yes! I want the July, August, and September issues of DYNAMITE (numbers 25, 26, and 27). Here is my $2.50 (if possible in a check or money order made out to *Dynamite*).

4B ☐ Yes! I want to get DYNAMITE for a FULL YEAR—12 issues of DYNAMITE. Here is my $9.00 (if possible in a check or money order made out to *Dynamite*).

YOUR AGE_____

NAME_____
(Please print first and last names)

ADDRESS_____

CITY_____

STATE_____ ZIP CODE_____

Offer valid in U.S. and its territories only. Sorry, no change of address possible after order is placed.

MAIL TO: DYNAMITE, BOX 2005, ENGLEWOOD, NJ 07631

ANSWERS TO COUNT MORBIDA'S PUZZLE PAGES

Private Group

Ghoul Scouts

Missing Body Parts

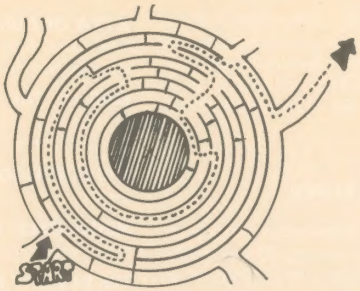
1. arm
2. head
3. toe
4. ear
5. nose
6. leg
7. hip

Monster's Motto

A. Indian
B. Idea
C. Feed
D. Fine
E. Send
F. Dine

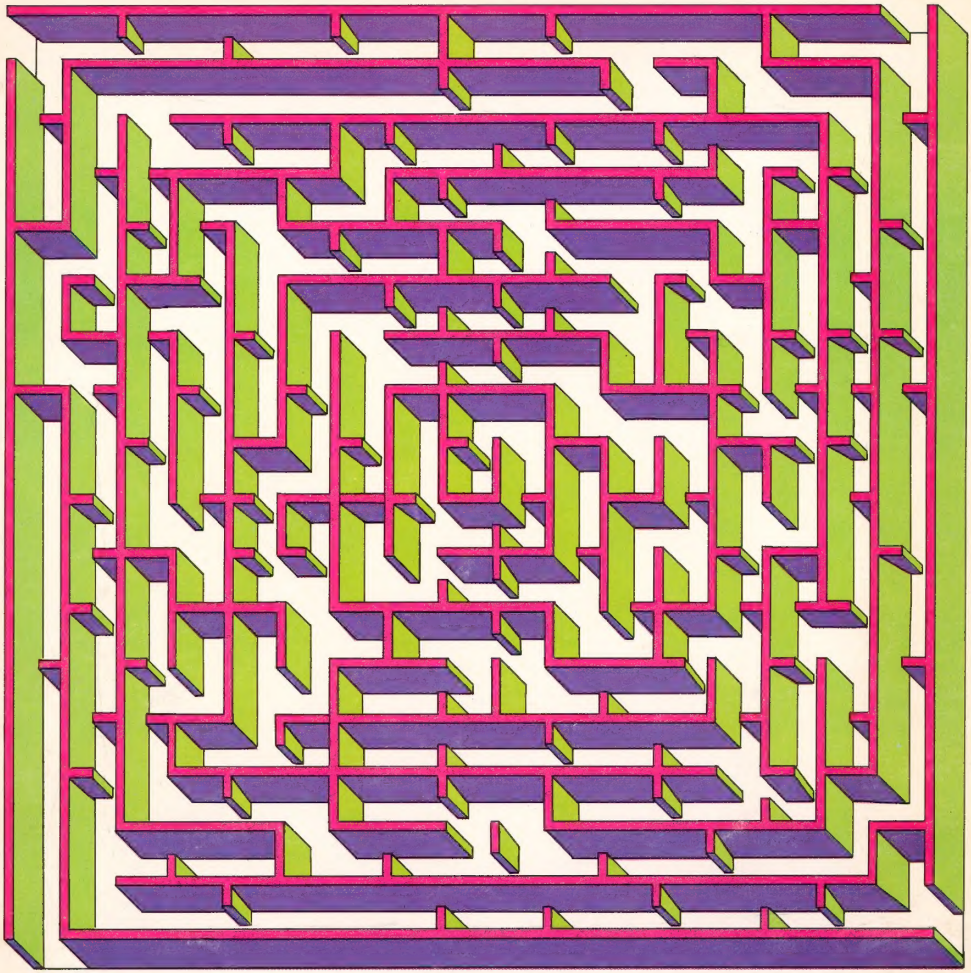
A fiend in need is a fiend indeed.

Prison Maze



ANSWER TO DRAGON TAMER PUZZLER

We told you this trick was sneaky. You can see from the picture that you line up the pieces so that the head of one dragon and the tail of the other dragon make a new dragon. See? Sorry, gang.



Mission Impossible Maze

Good day, Dynamite Kid. This maze has four corner entrances. Only one will take you to your goal, the center square. There are false starts and dead ends all along the way. Your assignment, should you decide to accept it, is to enter the maze, follow the right path, and get to the middle of this Mission Impossible Maze. If you fail in this assignment, *Dynamite* will, of course, deny any knowledge of your activities—but we will tell you the answer in next month's *Dynamite*. Good luck.

DYNAMITE
BOX 2005
ENGLEWOOD, NJ 07631